



Kentucky Transition News: Moving to Success!

*Information about moving from high
school to postschool environments*

Summer 2011

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Welcome to **Kentucky Transition News: Moving to Success!** quarterly electronic newsletter. We provide information on transition from high school for students with disabilities, professionals, and parents. If you have transition news you would like to share in the newsletter, contact Kathy Eversole, at kathy.eversole@kedc.org.

For more transition information, visit www.transitiononestop.org

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My Next Move

The U.S. Department of Labor has launched [My Next Move](http://www.mynextmove.org), a web-based tool to provide job seekers with information on more than 900 occupations, as well as local job openings and training opportunities. Each listing has a one-page profile with information about what knowledge, skills, and abilities are needed; the occupation's outlook; level of education required; technologies used in the job; other similar jobs; and links to local salary information, training opportunities, and relevant job openings. For more information go to <http://www.mynextmove.org>

Transition in Kentucky - *Instructional Support Network News*

Senate Bill 1 Update

College and Career Readiness Plan Strategy: College and Career Advising

In order to support schools in implementing or enhancing comprehensive advising programs for secondary students, KDE is launching a number of initiatives.

- An Advising Toolkit, *Your Future Ahead*, is available on the KDE website. This resource provides guidance for creating an advising team to engage all teachers in providing academic, career and personal/social activities for students. These activities are aligned with the American School Counselors Association student standards. (See additional information below).
- KDE, in collaboration with a wide variety of stakeholders, will launch the first of an annual statewide Individual Learning Plan Blitz/College and Career Advising Week that will be aligned with students' EXPLORE/PLAN scores. More details to follow as they are available (spring of 2012). The Advising Toolkit will provide resources to assist districts and schools with this effort. More details are to come.

Transition in Kentucky – *College and Career Readiness Unified Plan*

Senate Bill 1 has led to the implementation of several education initiatives impacting college readiness and degree completion in Kentucky. Included in these initiatives was a mandate for the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to develop a unified strategy to reduce college remediation rates of recent high school graduates by at least fifty percent by 2014 from the rates in 2010, and to increase the college completion rates of students enrolled in one or more remedial classes by three percent annually from 2009 to 2014. CPE and KDE have partnered to develop a unified strategic plan outlined below.

“Either you decide to stay in the shallow end of the pool or you go out in the ocean.”

Christopher Reeve

Four key strategies have been identified to promote college and career readiness and degree completion:

- Accelerated Learning Opportunities (focusing on the expansion of access and dual credit opportunities)
- Secondary Intervention Programs (focusing on the development of transitional coursework)
- College and Career Readiness Advising (focusing on the full implementation of the Individual Learning Plan and comprehensive advising programs)
- Postsecondary College Persistence and Degree Completion (focusing on bridge programming, accelerated learning opportunities, and student support and intervention systems)

CPE and KDE have created cross-agency work teams that include KCTCS, four-year institutions and other external agency partners. These work teams have developed goals and action plans, identified useful resources, and determined expected outcome measures for each of the strategies, promoting readiness and degree completion. The teams also developed metrics to measure progress on each of the Senate Bill 1 (2009) goals. The agencies will partner with secondary and postsecondary institutions to implement the plan, with dates of implementation contingent upon available funding.

The activities of the work teams will be ongoing and represent a model of collaboration with a shared vision of having all students prepared for postsecondary and career success. Because of this work, more students will reach higher levels of proficiency and more students will be college and career ready.

Transition in Kentucky – *Your Future Ahead*

A new advising toolkit will help districts keep students in school, better prepare them for postsecondary options and increase the number of students that are college/career ready.

The toolkit, [*Your Future Ahead*](#), is available to all school districts free of charge. It was developed by staff at the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE). Advising is a key strategy for keeping students in school. The Kentucky Board of Education, as part of its strategic plan, has a goal of increasing the Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate from a baseline of 75 percent in 2009 to 90 percent by 2015.

The advising toolkit is designed to help middle and high schools develop and improve their mentoring and advising programs. It includes sections on effectively using the Individual Learning Plan (ILP); building in time during the school day for advising; and Kentucky-specific lesson plans that trained mentors/advisors can use with students. The lessons are divided into three areas -- college, career and personal/social -- and mirror the American School Counselor Association's standards. The toolkit also includes a section on best practices.

Starting this fall, Kentucky schools will be expected to include information about their advising program in the Practical Living/Career Studies Program Review. In the future, Program Reviews will be a measure included in Kentucky's accountability system for schools and districts.

"You can't base your life on other people's expectations."

Stevie Wonder

[*Your Future Ahead*](#) can be downloaded at no cost from the KDE website at

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Secondary+and+Virtual+Learning/Advising+and+Transitions/Advising+Toolkit.htm>.

Student Resources – *Employability Checkup*

This tool from the U.S. Department of Labor provides a snapshot of your chances of finding a job in a particular field based on your education and experience, desired income level and preferred employment location. Use this tool to select an occupation and industry, a state and locality, an education level and a wage level. This information will be used to create your "employability profile" to help you make good career choices. After completing your profile you will be led to a list of job banks and job training resources in your state. To access the website, go to: http://www.careerinfonet.org/employabilitycheckup/emp_ask.asp?nodeid=15

REFERENCE POINTS: *FosterClub Transition Toolkit*

FosterClub, a national network supporting young people in foster care, has developed a FosterClub Transition Toolkit to help youth plan for life after foster care. The toolkit is designed to help youth assess their assets and identify resources with the help of supportive adults involved in their lives. The toolkit includes "Readiness Scale" for youth to track their progress in 10 areas: finances and money management, jobs and careers, life skills, identity, performance, education, self care and health, housing, transportation, and community, culture, and social life. The information and planning and assessment forms in this toolkit can be used to develop an individual transition plan for all youth. For more information go to: http://www.fosterclub.com/files/transition_toolkit.pdf.

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do."

Helen Keller

Note: REFERENCE POINTS, transition updates from the TATRA Project, features resources and information to help parent organizations, advocates and professionals better serve adolescents and young adults with disabilities, and their families. Administered by the TATRA Project at PACER Center www.pacer.org, REFERENCE POINTS was launched with the initial support from the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition www.ncset.org. TATRA is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Parent Resources – "My Plan"

"My Plan" is an online person-centered planning tool created to help people with disabilities think about their strengths, needs, wants and dreams, and put them in a plan to use to make decisions about their life. The plan is separated into four categories (Home, Community, Health & Work) and is created completely online. It also includes information on looking for services on TheDesk.info (Medicaid Reference Desk). "My Plan" can be accessed at <http://www.thedesk.info/myplan/>
Source: TheArcLink Incorporated

Legal Requirements – IDEA Regulations: Alignment with the No Child Left Behind Act

The reauthorized Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was signed into law on Dec. 3, 2004, by President George W. Bush. The provisions of the act became effective on July 1, 2005, with the exception of some of the elements pertaining to the definition of a “highly qualified teacher” that took effect upon the signing of the act. The final regulations were published on Aug. 14, 2006. *IDEA Regulations: Alignment with the No Child Left Behind Act* is one in a series of documents, prepared by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) in the U.S. Department of Education that covers a variety of high-interest topics and brings together the regulatory requirements related to those topics to support constituents in preparing to implement the new regulations.¹

This document addresses the final regulatory requirements regarding the alignment of IDEA and the NCLB2. To view or download the document, go to:
<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cdynamic%2CTopicalBrief%2C3%2C>

I Need Help! Supports and Services from Kentucky Agencies

In each issue of *Kentucky Transition News: Moving to Success!* a different agency that may help with transition related issues will be featured.

Family Resource and Youth Services Centers

What are Family Resource and Youth Services Centers?

The Kentucky Family Resource and Youth Services Centers were established as a component of the historic Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) of 1990. The mission of these school-based centers is to help academically at-risk students succeed in school by helping to minimize or eliminate non-cognitive barriers to learning.

Schools where at least 20 percent of the student population is eligible for free or reduced school meals may compete for FRYSC funding. Approximately, 51 percent of students enrolled in Kentucky’s public schools are eligible for free school meals. FRYSCs are strengthened by community partnerships in their ability to provide vital programs, services and referrals to students and their families. These partnerships are critical in efforts on behalf of students to promote:

- early learning and successful transition to school;
- academic achievement and well-being; and
- graduation and transition into adult life.

Each center offers a unique blend of programs and services to serve the special needs of their student and family client populations. The goal of the FRYSCs is to

meet the needs of all children and their families served by the centers as a means to enhance student academic success.

What services does the Supported Higher Education Project offer?

Family Resource Centers serve children under school age and in elementary school and coordinate:

- preschool child care;
- after-school child day care;
- families in training;
- family literacy services; and,
- health services and referrals.

Youth Services Centers serve students in middle and high school and coordinate:

- referrals to health and social services;
- career exploration and development;
- summer and part-time job development (high school only);
- substance abuse education and counseling; and
- family crisis and mental health counseling.

How can I learn more?

For additional information about your local FRYSC program, please contact your local school or school district office. For more information about the Kentucky FRYSC program, contact Michael Denney by mail at Division of FRYSC, 275 E. Main St., Frankfort, Ky. 40621 or by phone at (502) 564-4986.

What's Happening!? *Upcoming Events in Kentucky*

Kentucky State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children

The Kentucky State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (SAPEC) provides policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in Kentucky as defined by special education regulations and applicable state and federal law.

The Panel advises and assists the Department of Education regarding the provision of appropriate services for children aged birth through twenty. The authority for the Panel is mandated under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq. as amended). The Panel conducts public forums as a part of their meetings. The public is encouraged to comment via e-mail or by coming to a meeting.

Details for the next scheduled meeting are:

November 20-22, 2011
Kentucky CEC Conference
Galt House Hotel
Louisville, KY

Regional Parent/Professional Conferences

July 19-20, 2011

Regional Parent/Professional Conference

Sponsored by the Upper Cumberland Special Education Cooperative Parent Resource Center and the Berea Regional Training/Parent Resource Center
Lynn Camp High School
Corbin, Ky.

Program and registration information at www.uppercumberlandcoop.org

August 27, 2011

2nd Annual Western Kentucky Mini Parent/Professional Conference
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Murray State University
Curriss Center

Kids Are Worth It! Conference

September 12-13, 2011

15th annual *Kids Are Worth It!* Conference
Lexington Convention Center
Lexington

See the Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky website
(http://www.pcaky.org/kids_are_worth_it.html) for more information
